Sunday, March 7, 2021

Saved:
The Goal of God's Grace

Ephesians 2:1-7

David H. McKinley

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[1]And you were dead in the trespasses and sins [2]in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—[3]among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. [4]But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, [5]even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved—[6]and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, [7]so that in the coming ages He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. —Ephesians 2:1-7

1. A Spiritual _____

Without the Living Christ…

• We are Walking _____

• We are Demonstrating _____

"Their habitual behavior had been characterized by sinning. Their standard of conduct had been 'according to the age of this world system.' Because they were dead toward God, their activity was entirely a response to this world system. They breathed its atmosphere and patterned their lives after it."

—Homer Kent

• We are Facing _____

Guilt of Chronological Snobbery: "In arrogance we see people from the past as more naïve, primitive and less sophisticated than ourselves. But the truth is people have always been the same—dead, depraved and doomed—and we are as pagan today as at any other time or generation in history."

—C.S. Lewis

Notes:

2. A Miraculous _____ by Grace

• God's Overwhelming _____

[16]For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. [17]For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. [18]Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because He has not believed in the name of the only Son of God… [36]Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him. —John 3:16-18, 36

• God's Amazing _____

• God's Enduring _____

"Paul paints a bright portrait of God's grace that stands in dramatic contrast to the dark landscape of human sin. By giving believers life with Christ, raising them with Christ and seating them with Christ in His place of victory, God has demonstrated the overwhelming merciful loving and gracious nature of His character. This demonstration of His character is not something that happened as a side effect of His gracious saving work, but was the very purpose for which He did this work. He rescued those who are in Christ from the domination of the world, the devil and the flesh so that He might demonstrate forever the overwhelming nature of His character." —Frank Thielman

Notes:

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WARREN
A WAY OF LIFE

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